

**Assessment Guidelines for TABLE A-II/4**  
Specification for minimum standard of competency

**Proficiency in Rating Forming Part of a Navigational Watch**

**Skills that must be demonstrated:**

CSC 6-2000-7373-2

1. Use of magnetic and gyro-compasses;
2. Respond to standard rudder orders (Hard right [starboard] or left [port]; ease the rudder; midships; shift your rudder; meet her; steady as she goes; steer on the range);
3. Change over from automatic to hand steering;
4. Certain responsibilities of the lookout (reporting sounds, lights and objects);
5. Watch procedures that contribute to a safe watch (relief, maintenance and hand over).

The following knowledge or understanding-based competencies may be assessed through a written multiple-choice examination. The examination should also assess the knowledge or understanding required to perform the skill demonstrations listed above. The candidate must achieve a minimum passing grade of 70% in each area of knowledge or understanding within the competency.

1. Shipboard terms and definitions related to lookout (reporting sounds, lights and objects);
2. Information requirements that contribute to a safe watch;
3. Basic environmental procedures that contribute to a safe watch;
4. Knowledge of duties and signals needed to operate emergency equipment and apply emergency procedures;
5. Knowledge of pyrotechnic distress signals, EPIRBs and SARTs needed to operate emergency equipment and apply emergency procedures, including false alarms and accidental activation.

**Skill demonstrations**

As part of a proficiency in Rating Forming Part of a Navigational Watch assessment, candidates must meet the standards of competence set out in STCW Code Table A-II/4. The candidates will demonstrate their competence to (1) steer the ship and comply with helm orders; (2) keep a proper look out; and (3) contribute to a safe watch. Each candidate must perform every required demonstration using actual equipment or an approved full mission simulator. All steering and helm assessments must occur on a vessel of at least 100 gross tons or a full mission ship simulator programmed to realistically simulate the hydrodynamic properties of vessels of at least 200 GRT (500 ITC), equipped with a rudder order indicator, a rudder angle indicator, gyrocompass, magnetic compass, and a steering stand which permits the steering to be switched from hand to gyro. The assessment of the ability to contribute to monitoring and controlling a safe watch must occur aboard a ship at sea.

These assessment guidelines establish the conditions under which the assessment will occur, the performance or behavior the candidate is to accomplish, and the standards against which the performance is measured. The examiner is encouraged to use a checklist in conducting assessments of practical demonstrations of skill. Checklists allow a training institution or designated examiner to ensure that critical tasks are not overlooked when evaluating a candidate's practical demonstration. Training institutions and designated examiners should develop their own checklists for use in conducting the assessments in a complete and structured manner.

**TABLE A-II/4 Guidelines for Assessment**  
**Specification of minimum standard of competence**  
**RATING FORMING PART OF A NAVIGATIONAL WATCH**

**Function: Navigation at the support level**

<b>STCW Competence</b>	<b>Knowledge, understanding and proficiency</b>	<b>Performance Condition</b>	<b>Performance Behavior</b>	<b>Performance Standard</b>
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Use of magnetic and gyro-compasses  <b>Steady on a new course</b>	At full sea speed, while on a northeasterly heading, when hearing the command in English, "Steer 342,*"  *The assessor may select any course desired as long as it is more than 30° from the original heading. At least one assessment should include a turn to the right from the ordered course.	the candidate will turn the helm to bring the vessel to the new course and steady on the course of 342°.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repeat order.</li> <li>2. Turn the helm in the direction of the fewest degrees to the ordered course using no more than 15° of rudder.</li> <li>3. Reduce the rudder angle as the vessel approaches the course.</li> <li>4. Steady on the course of 342° with less than 5° of overshoot.</li> <li>5. State: she's steady on three four two.</li> </ol>
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Use of magnetic and gyro-compasses  <b>Steer a course by gyro compass</b>	In a sea state of 4 or less, when hearing the command in English, "Steer 342,"	the candidate will use the gyrocompass to steer the course of 342°.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repeat order.</li> <li>2. When steady on course state: steering three four two.</li> <li>3. Steer the course ordered within <math>\pm 3^\circ</math> (open ocean), and <math>\pm 2^\circ</math> (near coastal) for 15 minutes.</li> </ol>

STCW Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Use of magnetic and gyro-compasses  <b>Steer a course by magnetic compass</b>	In a sea state of 4 or less, when hearing the command in English, "Steer 342,"	the candidate will use the magnetic compass to steer the course of 342°.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repeat order.</li> <li>2. When steady on course state: steering three four two.</li> <li>3. Steer the course ordered within <math>\pm 5^\circ</math> (open ocean), and <math>\pm 3^\circ</math> (near coastal) for 15 minutes.</li> </ol>
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Helm order  <b>Right (Starboard) 10</b>	When hearing the command in English, "Right (Starboard) 10,"	the candidate will turn the helm until the rudder is right (starboard) 10°.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repeat order</li> <li>2. Immediately turn helm to right (starboard).</li> <li>3. Stop turning the helm when the rudder angle indicator reads right (starboard) 10°.</li> <li>4. State: the rudder is right (starboard) 10, or she's right (starboard) 10°.</li> </ol>
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Helm order  <b>Left (Port) 20</b>	When hearing the command in English, "Left (Port) 20,"	the candidate will turn the helm left (port) until the rudder angle indicator shows the rudder is at left (port) 20°.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repeat order.</li> <li>2. Immediately turn helm to left (port).</li> <li>3. Stop turning the helm when the rudder angle indicator reads left (port) 20°.</li> <li>4. State: the rudder is left (port) 20, or she's left (port) 20°.</li> </ol>

STCW Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Helm order  <b>Left (Port) 20</b>	When hearing the command in English, "Left (Port) 20,"	the candidate will turn the helm left (port) until the rudder angle indicator shows the rudder is at left (port) 20°.	5. Repeat order. 6. Immediately turn helm to left (port). 7. Stop turning the helm when the rudder angle indicator reads left (port) 20°. 8. State: the rudder is left (port) 20, or she's left (port) 20°.
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Helm order  <b>Hard right (Starboard)</b>	When hearing the command in English, "Hard Right" (Starboard),	the candidate will turn the helm to the right (starboard) until the rudder is at maximum right (starboard) rudder.	1. Repeat order. 2. Immediately turn helm to right (starboard). 3. Stop turning the helm when the rudder angle indicator reads the rudder is at maximum right (starboard) rudder. 4. The rudder is not jammed against the stops. 5. State: the rudder is hard right (starboard), or she's hard right (starboard).

STCW Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Helm order  <b>Ease to 5</b>	When the rudder is more than 5° right (starboard) or left (port), when hearing the command in English, "Ease to 5,	the candidate will turn the helm to reduce the angle of the rudder until the indicator shows the rudder angle is right (starboard) or left (port) 5°.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repeat order.</li> <li>2. Immediately turn helm to reduce the rudder angle.</li> <li>3. Stop turning the helm when the rudder angle indicator shows the rudder angle is right (starboard) or left (port) 5°.</li> <li>4. State: the rudder is right (starboard) or left (port) 5°.</li> </ol>
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Helm order  <b>Midships; or, midships the wheel</b>	When hearing the command in English, "Midships,"	the candidate will turn the helm to reduce the angle of the rudder until the rudder angle indicator shows the rudder angle is zero.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repeat order.</li> <li>2. Immediately turn helm to reduce the rudder angle.</li> <li>3. Stop turning the helm when the rudder angle indicator shows the rudder angle is zero.</li> <li>4. State: the rudder is midships.</li> </ol>

STCW Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Helm order  <b>Shift your rudder</b>	With the rudder at 15° right (starboard) rudder, when hearing the command in English, "Shift your Rudder,"	the candidate will turn the helm to the left (port) until the indicator shows the rudder angle is left (port) 15°.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repeat order.</li> <li>2. Immediately turn helm to the left (port).</li> <li>3. Stop turning the helm when the rudder angle indicator shows the rudder angle is left (port) 15°.</li> <li>4. State: the rudder is left (port) 15°.</li> </ol>
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Helm order  <b>Meet her; or, check her</b>	During a turn, when hearing the command in English, "Meet Her," or "Check Her,"	the candidate will turn the helm to reduce the angle of the rudder and apply counter rudder until the vessel stops turning.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repeat order.</li> <li>2. Immediately turn helm to reduce the rudder angle.</li> <li>3. Apply counter rudder until the vessel stops turning.</li> <li>4. Ease the wheel to midships.</li> <li>5. State: the vessel's heading is .....</li> </ol>

STCW Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Helm order  <b>Steady as she goes</b>	When hearing the command in English, "Steady as She Goes,"	the candidate will note the heading of the vessel, stop any swing of the ship, and steer in the direction noted when the command was given.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repeat order.</li> <li>2. Note the heading when the command was given.</li> <li>3. Immediately apply rudder to stop any swing of the ship.</li> <li>4. Steer in the direction noted.</li> <li>5. State: she's steady as she goes.</li> </ol>
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Helm order  <b>Steer on the range</b>	When hearing the command in English, "Steer on the range,"	the candidate will keep the vessel's heading the same as the direction of the range.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repeat order.</li> <li>2. Use the upper and lower range to keep the vessel's heading within 1° of the charted direction of the range for 5 minutes when the upper and lower ranges are aligned one over the other.</li> </ol>
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Helm order  <b>Nothing to the right (Starboard)*</b>  *Nothing to the left (port) may also be used	When hearing the command in English, "Nothing to the right (Starboard),"	The candidate will keep the vessel from swinging to the right (starboard) and the vessel's heading from increasing.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The vessel does not swing to the right (starboard).</li> <li>2. The vessel's heading does not increase for 5 minutes.</li> </ol>

STCW Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Change over from automatic pilot to hand steering	At sea speed, when hearing the command to put the steering into hand steering,	the candidate will change the steering mode from auto pilot to hand steering.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repeat order.</li> <li>2. Switch the steering mode from autopilot to hand.</li> <li>3. Test that the new steering mode is responding.</li> <li>4. State, "She's in hand steering."</li> </ol>
Steer the ship and comply with helm orders in the English language	Change over from hand steering to automatic pilot	At sea speed, when hearing the command to put the steering into auto pilot,	the candidate will change the steering mode from hand steering to autopilot.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Repeat order.</li> <li>2. Put wheel amidships.</li> <li>3. Verify the course dialed into the auto pilot is the same as the course to be steered.</li> <li>4. Switch the steering mode from hand to auto pilot.</li> <li>5. Verify that the autopilot is responding properly.</li> <li>6. State, "She's in auto pilot."</li> </ol>



STCW Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
Keep a proper look out by sight and hearing	Responsibilities of lookout, including reporting the approximate bearing of a sound signal, light or other object in degrees or points.	On a ship or full mission ship simulator, given a condition <b>in daylight</b> of unlimited visibility through a field of view from right ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft the beam on each side of the vessel and a sea state of four or less, and a large and small vessel and a buoy in sight,	the candidate will detect and report all three objects.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reports the large vessel before it is within ten miles of own ship.</li> <li>2. Reports the small vessel before it is within 2 miles of own ship.</li> <li>3. Reports the buoy before it is within 2 miles of own ship.</li> <li>4. Report the direction to all objects in degrees or points within <math>\pm 1</math> point or <math>\pm 11.25^\circ</math>.</li> </ol>

STCW Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
Keep a proper look out by sight and hearing	Responsibilities of lookout, including reporting the approximate bearing of a sound signal, light or other object in degrees or points	On a ship or full mission ship simulator, given a condition <b>at night</b> of unlimited visibility through a field of view from right ahead to 22.5 degrees abaft the beam on each side of the vessel and a sea state of four or less, and a large and small vessel and a buoy in sight,	the candidate will detect and report all three objects.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reports the lights the large vessel before it is within ten miles of own ship.</li> <li>2. Reports the lights of the small vessel before it is within 2 miles of own ship.</li> <li>3. Reports the light of the buoy before it is within 2 miles of own ship.</li> <li>4. Report the direction to all objects in degrees or points within <math>\pm 1</math> point or <math>\pm 11.25^\circ</math>.</li> </ol>
Keep a proper look out by sight and hearing	Responsibilities of lookout, including reporting the approximate bearing of a sound signal, light or other object in degrees or points	On a ship or full mission ship simulator, in any condition of visibility, when a sound is generated by any sound appliance listed in the International Navigation Rules,	the candidate will detect and report the direction of the sound.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Report the direction of the sound in degrees or points within <math>\pm 1</math> point or <math>\pm 11.25^\circ</math>.</li> </ol>

STCW Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
Contribute to monitoring and controlling a safe watch	Procedures for the relief, maintenance and hand over of a watch	On a ship at sea, given traffic that has been reported to the officer of the watch, when the lookout relief reports to relieve the watch,	the candidate will hand over the watch in accordance with the ordinary practice of good seamanship.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tell the relief of:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. all objects sighted and reported;</li> <li>b. objects sighted and not yet reported;</li> <li>c. past and present weather;</li> <li>d. any special instructions to be followed during the watch; and,</li> <li>e. the status of the running lights.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. The candidate allowed the lookout relief to acquire his or her night vision.</li> <li>3. Report “the lookout is relieved.”</li> </ol>

STCW Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
Contribute to monitoring and controlling a safe watch	Procedures for the relief, maintenance and hand over of a helm watch	On a ship at sea, when being relieved at the helm,	the candidate will hand over the helm in accordance with the ordinary practice of good seamanship.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tell the relief:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. both the gyro and magnetic course or helm position;</li> <li>b. the steering mode;</li> <li>c. the steering unit in use; and,</li> <li>d. the amount and direction of rudder needed to hold course.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. The candidate does turn over the helm while executing a helm order (the candidate waits until the order is completed).</li> <li>3. The helmsman states, "the wheel (or helm) is relieved."</li> </ol>

STCW Competence	Knowledge, understanding and proficiency	Performance Condition	Performance Behavior	Performance Standard
Contribute to monitoring and controlling a safe watch	Use of appropriate internal communications and alarm systems	On a ship at sea,	<p>the candidate will notify the officer of the watch when hearing the following alarms:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The ARPA guard ring intrusion alarm;</li> <li>2. The gyro-compass failure alarm;</li> <li>3. Smoke and/or heat detector alarms;</li> <li>4. Running Light panel alarms;</li> <li>5. The steering motor failure alarm; and,</li> <li>6. The steering pump failure alarm.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Immediately report each alarm to the Officer in Charge of the Watch.</li> <li>2. In the case of steering failures, immediately after notifying the Officer in Charge of the Watch:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. if not in hand steering, switch the steering to hand;</li> <li>b. midship the wheel;</li> <li>c. switch the motor or pump;</li> <li>d. test the steering response; and,</li> <li>e. when ordered by the watch officer, switch the steering to autopilot.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>